

MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CLARENDON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, HELD AT SURELINK OFFICES, VILLIERS DRIVE, ON TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2020 AT 6 P.M.

Present: Rowan White Chairman  
Dylan Horn Treasurer  
Pam Read Secretary

Jim Read, Rob van Heerden, Derek Butler, Rob Evans, Greg Dreyer, Chris Withers, John Kassner, Deirdre Serfontein, Dion Curtis, Mark Dent and Craig Smith

1. **WELCOME :**

Rowan welcomed all present to the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of the Clarendon Community Association AGM for 2020, due to COVID-19 regulations and current state of disaster it was decided that the AGM would be restricted to the 2019 committee members together with proxies to attain a quorum.

2. **APOLOGIES:** Marlene Daly

3. **COMMITTEE MEETING OF 21 SEPTEMBER 2020 AND 12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF 9 OCTOBER 2019** were accepted as a fair reflection of the meetings.

4. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

Thanks were extended to the current committee of the CCA, and all contributing households in the Clarendon area. Rowan said that the CCA was in a very favourable position that afforded us the ability to fulfil neglected municipal obligations and responsibilities, in order to ensure our safety is secured, our neighbourhood is presentable and that our investment in the area remains financially viable for the future.

We experienced a very low level of crime in the first half of 2020, with one attempted burglary reported in April, no crime during the lockdown periods from March to June but worryingly a significant spike during July, significantly in August, September and October. This seems to be a combination of desperate Whoonga addicts, previously housed in the homeless shelter set up during the hard lock down, together with some very professional burglaries targeting homes that have had contractors on or near the property in the days preceding the burglary. Of further concern is how burglars are able to access homes undetected by dogs or sleeping residents.

A further observation with all the positive burglaries was 1 property had an armed alarm but no early warning measures, 2 had an alarm together with early warning measures, 24 had no alarm (14 flats) and 3 had alarms that were either not activated or a particular room being bypassed due to the dog sleeping in that area or the affected outside room alarm disabled due to renovations.

Crime was initially concentrated along the railway and Botanical conservancies but we have also had a spate of burglaries and attempted burglaries along Gloucester Rd, Villiers Drive, Moreland, Kitchener and most recently Wellington Place. The entry points appear to have been mostly from the conservancy bordering Villiers Drive where fences have been continually cut.

Rowan said that investigations have been undertaken into the possibility of thermal and infrared motion sensor camera installation to monitor any movement in and from the conservancy, with instant notifications being sent directly to the Magma patrol vehicle, neighbourhood watch members and Magma control centre, for appropriate action.

Thanks was extended to Pam Read and her team who have worked tirelessly to ensure that the common areas and gardens are maintained, litter collected and fence lines relatively free of weeds and overgrowth. Kevin Joliffe recently tackled the conservancy and cleared all alien vegetation and bush from 26 – 53 Villiers with the goal of re-establishing all indigenous trees and vegetation in this area. He said that the area was looking very good at the moment.

Rowan thanked Dylan Horn for keeping all association finances in-check.

Rowan acknowledged all the other CCA committee members namely Jim Read, Greg Dreyer, Dion Curtis, Rob Evans, Derek Butler, Chris Withers, John Kassner, Mark Dent, Deidre Serfontein, Rouen Bruni, Marlene Daly, Rob Van Heerden who have all given so freely of their time to offer their input during meetings, decision making processes and in all the unseen duties affiliated with the Clarendon Community Association. He proposed setting up various sub committee's going forward.

Rowan thanked Ross Strachan, our ward councillor, for his persistence and ever present hand in holding the municipality to account and for his support of the Clarendon community.

## 5. **FINANCIALS**

Dylan presented his Financial Statements which were proposed by Rob van Heerden and seconded by Jim Read.

## 6. **MATTERS ARISING:**

### 6.1 **MSUNDUZI ASSOCIATION OF RESIDENTS, RATE PAYERS AND CIVICS (MARRC)**

Association is chaired by Anthony Waldhausen and together with some highly active and experienced committee members, have undertaken significant correspondence and consultation with senior management in the municipality with regards to service delivery, the land fill site, electricity billing, property valuations and the IDP budget. Unfortunately there appears to be a highly toxic political atmosphere that is making any positive change difficult and is possibly just a ticking box exercise of public consultation by the municipality. They have, however, undertaken to formally constitute and revive the rate paying associations throughout PMB. There has been an extensive report compiled with regards to electricity issues and disconnections and this will be submitted to the municipality and media, a copy will be displayed on the website.

Numerous letters have also been submitted regarding all issues mentioned before to the administrator, municipal manager, mayor and OUTA have been copied on all correspondence. This is an ongoing exercise that will require active citizenship and support from the entire rate paying associations and residents throughout Msunduzi, which will hopefully create a united front to turn the tide against corruption and maladministration in PMB.

Pam was asked to send this Report to the community and ask Bonny to put it on the website.

### 6.2 **STREET LIGHTS**

An extensive street light fault report is being compiled monthly and emailed to the municipality but there appears to a significant delay in attending to faults in response to this reporting. This is going to be a persistent challenge. Craig Smith will be compiling these monthly reports and submitting to the relevant managers and departments but if everyone could please report any street lights that are observed to being faulty.

Derek said everybody should report and send reference numbers to Craig.

### 6.3 **LITTER**

Rowan appealed to everyone while out walking to please take a packet and collect any litter that may be found, this would really make a huge difference to the general appearance of the neighbourhood.

Please advise employees against littering. The view point is an ongoing challenge and visitors to this area do not seem cognisant of the impact of littering in this area. Pam and her team did a great job in clearing this area recently and it is really looking good.

Pam has also been spearheading the recycling initiative with recycling items being collected each Tuesday by a gentleman named Musa. He made mention that he makes approximately R1 per full bag of recycling which is going to require a lot more homes separating there recyclable items to make this an affordable initiative for him. Please encourage and advise your neighbours about this recycling project.

#### 6.4 POTHOLES

Duzi Asphaltting was financed to institute repairs to all potholes in the neighbourhood, in June 2020, and we were in this fortunate position due to all contributing households, and surplus funds were used for this project. The municipality has received invoices as well as a letter of demand which has been acknowledged by the municipal legal department and hopefully these costs will be reimbursed. Thank you to all contributing homes, the small monthly contributions have made a huge difference and if more homes considered joining the CCA, we would be in a position to do so much more. Mark Dent will be compiling a monthly report of potholes requiring repairs, for submission to the municipality.

#### 6.5 WATER LEAKS

Water leaks need to be reported ASAP to the following numbers at the water department 0658086593, 0333482106 or 0333482118 with reference numbers sent to Ross or me. Water services managers are very efficient and when notified are able to mobilise plumbing teams to major water leaks very quickly.

#### 6.6 WEBSITE

Rowan said that the Clarendon Community website had been enhanced to include local businesses, updated bird lists (recently compiled by Kevin Joliffe) and very beautifully designed; please encourage residents to go onto the website for all details and insight into the functions of the association in Clarendon. A big thank you, to Bonny Thompson, for administrating this site. Should you want to advertise your business particulars, and are a CCA member, please contact her directly or through the website.

#### 6.7 DEFORESTATION IN WORLD'S VIEW

The deforestation in the World's view conservancy has been raised with the mayor and an audit has been completed and submitted to Council. The findings were predictably damning. The audit report was reported in the Witness 9/11/2020 which has uncovered some serious irregular expenditure and corruption. Hopefully there will be a positive outcome for this area. The road has been recently gravelled and it appears that harvesting will commence soon.

Chris said that a national directive was given to Council that an audit would be done and has been sent to all officials with no response. Ross is contemplating about laying a charge.

#### 6.8. SECURITY CHECKLIST

Jim said that Rowan drew up a checklist on what people should be doing about their security and Craig had suggested helping them. Jim suggested having this checklist printed on yellow paper for the fridge and it was agreed.

### 7. CLARENDON CRIME STATISTICS:

Concerning stats with regards to crime when compared to previous years as well as a representation of the areas affected during 2020.

	Burglary	Robbery	M/V Theft	A/burglary	Theft
October	2		1	1	
November		1			
December	2				
January	2		3	1	1
February	2	1		3	
March					
April				1	
May					
June					
July	5			1	1
August	8	1		8	2
September	4			3	1
October	5		2	4	1

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>Home Burglary</b>	9	9	15	5	30
<b>Home Robbery</b>	1	2	0	1	3
<b>Attempted theft</b>	3	2	5	2	22
<b>Armed robbery</b>		2	4		
<b>Theft</b>		6	2	3	6
<b>Motor vehicle theft</b>					6

## 8. SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Please store all valuable items out of view preferably in the cupboards while sleeping or when away from home.
2. Alarms need to be armed when retiring to bed and when leaving house unoccupied
- 3. Early warning measures need to be installed and functional**
4. Discuss with your security company about remote panic buttons.
5. Never exit house to investigate outside noises, notify your alarm company
6. Install CCTV cameras
7. Ensure there is adequate lighting around your house, ideally day/night LED globes.
8. Ensure inter-leading doors are locked when away from home to impede free movement through the house in the event of a burglary
9. Ensure verge is clear of any bottles, cans and other litter
10. Check on neighbours activated alarms & barking dogs
11. Tell your neighbours when you go away in order that they can monitor your property
12. Ensure boundary fencing is a sufficient deterrent especially if bordering conservancy
13. Report suspicious person's/vehicles on the security group
14. Keep copies of present and past employee identification documentation

## 9. TELEGRAM SECURITY GROUP

The Telegram Security group has been a very effective security forum and is being well respected, with Magma reacting very quickly to any alerts with appropriate feedback, with more than 430 residents linked. Telegram replaced the WhatsApp Security Groups negating the need of forwarding security information between 2 groups, as was the case previously, with Telegram accommodating more members.

## 10. MAGMA

Rowan said that there were currently well over 150 contracted homes, schools and businesses. We have amended our financial contribution as per the contractual agreement in June 2016, this saving will be directed in the CCA account and will eventually offset the cost of the camera initiative if approved.

Magma guards have intercepted a few suspects either loitering, for attempted theft or involved in a recent burglary all of whom were handed over to Townhill SAPS for processing. They have also intercepted a number of suspects attempting to enter the neighbourhood with house breaking instruments, under suspicious circumstances or scouting with the intent to steal. These have led to the recovery of other stolen goods and successful arrests.

Rowan said he had a meeting with Magma and we have now formed a sub-committee of Rowan, Dion, Greg and Rob Evans who will liaise with Magma and meet once per month. We are trying to retain the good guys and we have a good working relationship with all the guards.

## 11. THERMAL CAMERAS

We have received a quote from Kyle McKinley at Hidden Eye Security Solutions, who is giving the cameras to the community at his cost price and only charging for labour and other installation materials that will be required.

We are considering mounting a thermal camera, on the chimney, at 51 Villiers Drive that has a clear view across the conservancy to beyond 25 Villiers Drive. This camera has a range of approximately 300 metres. A further camera is being considered at 35 Villiers, which has power already supplied for camera installation on the boundary, looking back towards 51 Villiers Drive that will cover the gully not visible from the opposite side and only requiring a range of 50 metres. This may require a slightly cheaper camera.

2 infrared motion sensor cameras will replace the CCTV cameras that are currently mounted outside 53 Villiers with a 6m pole extension focussing up the conservancy fence and down into the Botanic conservancy.

The quote will in all likelihood be substantially cheaper due to power already being available at the selected points.

Another camera will need to be considered at 23 Villiers that will cover the dead space not visible from 51 Villiers Drive.

We will also need to consider motion sensor cameras, positioned strategically throughout the neighbourhood to detect any motion in areas once the patrol vehicle has passed through. These can also monitor the activity of the patrol vehicle.

This is an expensive exercise and we will require endorsement from the committee before proceeding.

Derek

## 12. CCA MEMBERSHIP

The CCA monthly fee will be maintained at R200 as has been the case for the past 13 years, with Magma clients being discounted the Magma patrolling costs, in order to keep individual household security costs affordable. CCA membership is stable at about 56-57% but does fluctuate occasionally with people leaving the area; please encourage neighbours who are not members or new neighbours to consider joining the CCA.

Pam said we need to do a membership drive and get more support from the residents as there are still a lot of people who do not pay and are reaping the benefits of the association.

## 13. COMMITTEE FOR 2020:

Proposed sub committees

Chairman	Rowan White
Secretary	Pam Read
Treasurer	Dylan Horn

CPF representatives – Rowan White and Jim Read

Security committee- Greg Dreyer, Dion Curtis, Rob Evans

Street lights- Craig Smith

Potholes-Mark Dent and Chris Norman

MARRC representative- John Kassner

World's View- Chris Withers

Committee: Rob van Heerden, Marlene Daly, Derek Butler and Rouen Bruni.

Deirdre Serfontein has sadly resigned as she is leaving the area.

14. **CLOSURE:** Rowan thanked everyone for attending and the AGM was closed at 20h15

**CHAIRMAN:**..... **DATE:** .....

